

Application No. 10/660,352
Amendment "A" dated July 26, 2005

REMARKS

The Applicant's counsel wishes to thank the Examiner for the personal interview on Wednesday, July 6, 2005. Various claim amendments were discussed and considered, but no agreement was reached. However, discussion was had as to how references of record may be overcome. Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. Claims 15-23 are allowed. By this paper, claims 1 and 9 have been amended. No new matter is believed to be introduced as a result of the foregoing amendments. The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant submits that claims 1-14 are not indefinite. Claims 1 and 9 both state "a body at least partially implemented in the form of a wall that defines a portion of a fluid passageway". Paragraph 0036 of Applicant's application describes one example of such a body when it states "some implementations of the fluid system component 300 comprise a body substantially in the form of a length of metal pipe or tubing".

Further, paragraph 0038 describes that "the fluid system component 300 may be implemented in forms other than a length of piping or tubing. For example, the fluid system component 300 may take the form of a pipe or tube fitting, or combinations thereof. Examples of such pipe and tube fittings include, but are not limited to, tees, bends, test fittings, taps, caps, plugs and elbows. In yet other exemplary embodiments, the fluid system component 300 is implemented in the form of a valve. More generally, the fluid system component 300 may be

Application No. 10/660,352
Amendment "A" dated July 26, 2005

implemented in any form that would enable effective implementation of the functionality disclosed herein." The components described herein above and in Applicant's application are examples of "a body at least partially implemented in the form of a wall". Therefore, claims 1-14 are not indefinite and the rejection under §112 should be removed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 1-5, 7, 9, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3055424 to Allen.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6095247 to Streich et al.

Claims 1-5, 7-10, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6752212 to Burris et al.

Applicant submits that the limitations recited with respect to each of claims 1 and 9 are not disclosed in Allen, Streich or Burris. In particular, with regards to claim 1, Allen, Streich and Burris each fail to disclose a fluid system component comprising a body at least partially implemented in the form of a wall that defines a portion of a fluid passageway, said wall having a predetermined thickness, wherein at least a portion of said wall has a reduced thickness forming a sacrificial element, said sacrificial element and said wall comprising a single piece.

Likewise, with regards to claim 9, Allen, Streich and Burris each fail to disclose a fluid system component comprising a body at least partially implemented in the form of a wall that defines a portion of a fluid passageway, said wall having a predetermined thickness, and at least one sacrificial element defined by a portion of said wall, said at least one sacrificial element being continuous with said wall to comprise a single piece.

Application No. 10/660,352
Amendment "A" dated July 26, 2005

Thus, Allen, Streich and Burris each fail to disclose the limitations recited with respect to each of claims 1 and 9. Therefore, the rejection to claims 1 and 9 should now be removed.

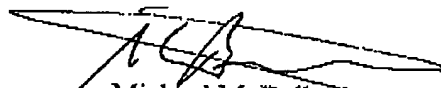
Conclusion

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified claims are now respectfully requested.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (801) 533-9800.

Dated this 26 day of July 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael M. Ballard
Registration No. 54,978
Attorney for Applicants
Customer No. 022913
Telephone No. (801) 533-9800
mballard@wnlaw.com

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